

App'n No. 10/659,016  
Amdt. Dated August 09, 2004  
Response to Office action of June 14, 2004

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### **REMARKS/ARGUMENTS**

The Applicant thanks the Examiner for the Official Action of June 14, 2004. In response to the issues raised, we offer the enclosed amendments and following submissions.

#### **35 USC §102 Novelty**

Claims 1 to 4 and 9 stand rejected for lack of novelty in light of the disclosure in US 6,149,256 to McIntyre et al.

The Applicant respectfully submits that the combination of features defined by amended claim 1 has not been anticipated by the McIntyre reference. Amended claim 1 has incorporated the features of original claim 3 into original claim 1. The amended definition of the invention introduces the collapsible nature of the distinct ink chambers. In combination with the other elements of the claim, the cartridge is manufactured in a time and cost efficient manner (see p. 6, ln 24 to p. 7, ln 2).

McIntyre fails to disclose distinct ink storage chambers that are "defined at least in part by a collapsible membrane". Column 4, lines 14 to 25 discusses the "pierceable reservoir seal 12" of each ink reservoir. The ordinary worker in this field would not equate this feature with the reservoir seals. In fact, if these seals were collapsible, they risk not being pierced by the piercing probes 42.

In light of the above, McIntyre clearly fails to anticipate the combination of features defined by amended claim 1. Likewise claims 2, 4 and 9 are also novel by virtue of their appendence to amended claim 1.

#### **35 USC §103 Obviousness**

Claims 5 to 8 stand rejected as obvious in light of US 6,149,256 to McIntyre et al. in view of US 5,240,238 to Lee.

§103 requires the cited references to disclose all of the claimed features. Lee and McIntyre do not disclose distinct ink storage chambers that are defined at least in part by a collapsible membrane. This limitation is clearly defined in amended claim 1 and therefore imported into claims 5 to 8 by virtue of dependence.

Accordingly, claims 5 to 8 are not obvious in light of the combined disclosures of the cited references.

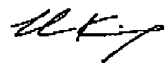
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It is respectfully submitted that the Examiner's objections have been successfully traversed. Accordingly, reconsideration and allowance of the application is courteously solicited.

Very respectfully,

Applicant:



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